



PRESS RELEASE

DHR Maryland Department of Human Resources
Maryland's Human Services Agency

Contact: Paula Tolson
410-767-7758

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Department of Human Resources Recoups \$27,000 in back Child Support for Tornado Victim

Baltimore: Do you ever question some days whether, or not the work you do makes any difference? Do you ever ask yourself why you keep coming into this office day after day with the knowledge that you will probably be confronted with many different challenges such as computer problems, angry customers, a new stack of reports and an impossible boss, etc.? Well, I am about to share with you a story that I hope will answer those questions for you and dispel any notion that the work you do is not important or meaningful.....

The Department of Human Resources' Anne Arundel County child support office struggled with a case that has had no payments in the last few years. Despite many efforts to locate the Non Custodial parent, he had seemingly vanished. The arrearage had climbed to over \$27,000.00.

In the course of working on another case, the case worker had an idea. She checked several non-traditional databases and discovered that the non-custodian parent owned property in Baltimore City. A lien was placed on the property with the Circuit Court of Baltimore City just in case it ever sold.

Well, it did sell and earlier this month, the Department received a check for \$27,930.88. This satisfied the entire arrears. Great work but that is not the end of the story.....

The elated worker wanted to call the custodial parent to let her know she would be receiving this large check. Unfortunately, the phone number was not in service. After doing some more investigating, the worker came up with information on a possible employer of the custodial parent in VA.

Once contacted, it was learned that the custodial parent was a victim of the April tornado which hit Suffolk VA. Her home, uninhabitable, consequently she and her family have been in temporary shelters. The custodial parent was overwhelmed and much appreciative. The money arrived on May 25th and will help her put her life and her children's life back together.

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The Maryland Department of Human Resources protects the State's vulnerable children and adults and provides temporary economic assistance. DHR strengthens Maryland families and improves communities through its 24 Departments of Social Services, community partnerships and its four administrations: the Social Services Administration, Family Investment Administration, Child Support Enforcement Administration and Community Services Administration.



- Martin O'Malley, Governor
- Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
- Brenda Donald, Secretary